

Message Text

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63

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 L-03 AGR-05

AGRE-00 INSE-00 TRSE-00 /032 W

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R 231843Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8674

INFO U.S. CUSTOMS MIAMI FLA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR BF

SUBJ: CIVAIR: PRECLEARANCE: CUSTOMS PROPOSALS FOR TCOB

IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURES TO DEAL WITH FALSE DECLARATIONS

REF: STATE 232652

CONSISTENT WITH AUTHORIZATION CONTAINED REFTTEL, EMBASSY
TODAY TRANSMITTED FOLLOWING LETTER TO MINEXTAFF ADDERLEY.

QUOTE DEAR MR. MINISTER:

IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT DURING THE COURSE OF THE
NEGOTIATIONS OF THE PRECLEARANCE AGREEMENT SIGNED IN
NASSAU ON APRIL 23, 1974, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMON-
WEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS EXPRESSED AN INTENT TO TAKE THE
NECESSARY MEASURES TO MAKE IT AN OFFENSE UNDER BAHAMIAN
LAW TO MAKE FALSE DECLARATION TO SECURE PRECLEARANCE
FROM UNITED STATES OFFICIALS PERFORMING THEIR DUTIES
AT THE NASSAU PRECLEARANCE UNIT. TO ASSIST THE BAHAMIAN
AUTHORITIES IN ENACTING LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT THIS
INTENT, THE EMBASSY SUBMITTED DRAFT LANGUAGE TO THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN DECEMBER OF 1973. THUS
FAR NO ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS.

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MY GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT IT IS NECESSARY FOR SUCH LEGISLATION TO BE ENACTED IF WE ARE TO CARRY OUT OUR PRECLEARANCE DUTIES IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH WHICH SUCH DUTIES WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED AT A UNITED STATES PORT OF ENTRY. YOU WILL RECALL OF COURSE THAT THIS ASSUMPTION UNDERLIES MY GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT TO THE PRECLEARANCE PROCEDURE.

WITH THE PASSAGE OF TIME WE HAVE REFINED THE DRAFT LANGUAGE ORIGINALLY SUBMITTED TO YOUR GOVERNMENT. IT CONTAINS NO FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES FROM THE ORIGINAL DRAFT. A COPY OF THIS DRAFT IS ENCLOSED.

IT IS MY GOVERNMENT'S OPINION, THAT SUCH LEGISLATION IS URGENTLY REQUIRED TO ENABLE THE UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE TO FULFILL ITS ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES AT THE NASSAU PRECLEARANCE UNIT. BOTH THE EMBASSY AND THE REGIONAL COUNSEL OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE IN MIAMI WOULD BE PLEASED TO RESPOND TO ANY QUESTION YOU MIGHT HAVE CONCERNING THIS MATTER.

SINCERELY, SEYMOUR WEISS, AMBASSADOR
UNQUOTE
WEISS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION, AIRPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NASSAU01517
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760359-1292
From: NASSAU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760928/aaaaaxsx.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 232652
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2004 by saccheem>; APPROVED <08 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: PRECLEARANCE: CUSTOMS PROPOSALS FOR TCOB IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURES TO DEAL WITH FALSE DECLARATIONS
TAGS: EAIR, BF, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006